Mary M. Harris
Charleston, Ills
1881 – Mar. 14.

Regarding Jemez, N. Mex

Charleston Ill
3-14-81

Dear Mrs. Haines,

Your two letters of the 9 & 10th were rec'd by the same mail Sat. morn. 9 & that of the 12th this morning. I replied hastily by postal Sat. noon & hope the enclosed certificate will meet ~~complete~~ the ~~room~~ requirements of the Board, as it is all that I can secure for them before Sat. & as my time is so pressed with arrangements to be in readiness for leaving, I do not wish to waste precious time in unnecessary work, but if the School Com. of your Board desire any further certificates than those you have rec'd, I will take the time next Sat. (the only day the County

Supt will examine teachers) & send an official certificate, from our County Sup't. Please advise me in regard to it, telling me freely if the enclosed certificate is not satisfactory.

I am disappointed in not having had the satisfaction of welcoming Dr. Jackson yet, as I depended upon his judgement & your decision in regard to my personal fitness for the work to wh. you call me.

Should the Ep. Com. of the Board of Home Missions decide to accept me, & wish me to go at once to Jemez, I can meet (D.V.) the appointments you have so kindly made for me at Albuquerque & Jemez with the hope that Miss Shurtleff will ere long be able to take the school there if she prefers. I hope to welcome her back here, next Fri. or Sat.

I cannot write Rev. J. M. Shields that I will meet the appointments made until I receive my own official appointment by the Board, but will do so immediately on its reception.

I think I might hasten preparations so as to leave here Fri night Mar. 25th & rest over Sun. with the good christian sisters in Kan. City yet I shrink from the publicity in attending the annual meeting there & the criticisms of strangers, although I always have found it inspiring to good works to join the gathering of such christian workers.

I can secure my outfit without any advance of salary.

Rev.

regard to my personal fitness for the work to which you call me.

Should the Ex. Com. of the Board of Home Missions decide to accept me, & wish me to go at once to Fernes, I can meet (D.V.) the appointments you have so kindly made for me at Albuquerque & Fernes with the hope that Miss Shurtleff will ere long be able to take the school there if she prefers. I hope to welcome her back here, next Fri. or Sat. I cannot write Rev. J. M. Shields that I will meet the appointments made until I receive my own official appointment by the Board, but will do so immediately on its reception.

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I can secure my outfit without any advance of salary.

Pardon me in not forwarding earlier the school certificate, as I supposed the papers I had sent previously were all that were required.

The Presbytery will meet in about 4 weeks when my pastor will present my request for a statement regarding their judgement as to my fitness for the missionary work.

Hoping to hear from you soon — Yours — Mary M. Harris

Action taken by
the presbytery in session
at Abbeville April 12, 1881
R. M. Roberts Stated Clk.

The Presbytery of Inatoon heartily approve the appointment, by the Women's Board, of Miss Mary Harris as a Missionary teacher in New Mexico. She is a member of the church of Charleston and is well qualified in culture, experience and christian character for such work

POSTAL CARD

KANSAS CITY MO. APR 2 4 PM

WRITE THE ADDRESS ON THIS SIDE—THE MESSAGE ON THE OTHER

Miss Mary M. Haines

Mrs. F. E. H. Haines
23 Centre St.
New York City

P.O. Box 3863

Mary M. Bruce, Bernardsville, N.J.
June 1881 – March 1882.

POSTAL CARD

CHARLESTON ILL. MAR 22

WRITE THE ADDRESS ON THIS SIDE—THE MESSAGE ON THE OTHER

Miss M. M. Haines
Jan 3. 25/81 –
1881 – Mar 25.

Mrs. F. E. H. Haines
Cor. Sec. "Ep. Com. W.B.H. Missions"
23 Centre St.
New York

P.O. Box 3863.

POSTAL CARD

WRITE THE ADDRESS ON THIS SIDE—THE MESSAGE ON THE OTHER

Mary M. Bruce, Bernardsville, N.J.
1881 April 4th,

Mrs. F. E. H. Haines
Cor. Sec. "Ep. Com. W.H. Missions"
23 Centre St.
New York

POSTAL CARD

WRITE THE ADDRESS ON THIS SIDE—THE MESSAGE ON THE OTHER

Mary M. Haines
1881 – April 1st.

Mrs. F. E. H. Haines
Cor. Sec. Ep. Com. W.B.H.M.
23 Centre St.
New York

Raton New Mex.
4-1-81

Dear Mrs. H.

This my first greeting fr. N.M. is tinged with a need [illegible] renewed manifestation of the goodness & faithfulness of a loving Father, whose promise comforted me all the morn.g "As the mt.s are round about Jerusalem" (as they have been " " " me to-day) "so the Lord is " " (His people) those who fear Him fr. this time forth even forever more." In a moment without warning our train (on a swift down grade) collided with another construction train a short distance below here. No one killed but the engineer of the other train had a broken (compound fracture) arm & [illegible] broke arm & face cut, our own engineer had face cut but little & any other man was some injured. Being in a Pullman sleeper I did not even get one scratch & was thankful to be able in a little measure to relieve the suffering. A surgeon is on board & all are now being cared for [illegible] we hope to be transferred beyond the [illegible] engine & bag. car & reach Alb. [illegible] Apr. 2 [illegible]

Mary M. Harris

From Mary M. Harris Bernalillo N.M.
4-4/81

Pardon my frequent use of postals. Please state to Messrs. Eaton & Boyd (I know not their titles) that haste in getting off after rec'g permit &c at Kan City forbid my acknowledging receipt of these favors till to-day & now I am too weary to write. I reached Albu.e Sat: 7 P.M. 20 hours behind time. Went immediately to the Boarding Sch. Spent a pleasant Sab. with the dear good workers there, by direction of Dr. Shields am here — first station north of Al. to take the ride to Jemez bright & early in the morn.g to-morrow Apr. 5th. The river rising, this is the better crossing. Mott [illegible] our evangelist Montoya who kindly waits to see me safely on my way to-morrow. A faithful & covenant-keeping God has supplied all my need. Praise His holy Name! Yours ever Mary M. Harris

Charleston Ill.
3.22./81

Dear [illegible]

[illegible] just rec'd R. R. "Permit" [illegible] to Kansas City. As I [illegible] that Rev. O. D. [illegible] address [illegible] it is 23 [illegible] St. I wish to thank him through you for the favor. I send by this mail a note to [illegible] acknowledging the same. Also a letter to Rev. Mr. Shields informing of my purpose to be in N. Mex. Apr. 2d ready to go to Jemez Apr. 4th unless some misfortune overtakes me. Have seen Miss Shurtleff this morn.g in her school-room, greatly benefited by her 2 weeks at home. Also I wish her duties here were done, but it will be a joy to welcome her to the work so untried to us both.

Pray that grace, wisdom & strength may be given me abundantly.

Yours ever
Mary M. Harris

Kan. City [illegible]
3. 30/81

Dear Mrs. H.

I reached here the round about way to get on the Wabash St. L. & Pacific R. R. while by coming on the Ind.polis & St. Louis R. R. sh.d have had no change for the two or three changes I did make — had to be out all night & cost more, & did not get here till 9 P.M. Tues. when I could have been here 12 hours earlier by our direct-route from Charleston. If you sh.d send other Charlestonians out I hope you will be able to send them by the Ind.polis & St. Louis R. R. [illegible] But Miss Shurtleff will [illegible] to start fr. Clinton, [illegible] far from Decatur, both on the "Ill Central." Have seen Mrs. Dr. [illegible] & Mrs. Dr. Shauffler — Have rec'd [illegible] the latter the "Permit." Have [illegible] at ½ fare & every purchase & other arrangement made ready [illegible] in 3 hours more to take train [illegible] for Alb. I have had but little opportunity to attend the good meetings [illegible] am glad to be able to start to-night in order to fill your appointment. [illegible] Yours ever Mary

Mary M. Harris,
Jemez, New Mexico.
1881, May 13th.

restrained from fear, if from no higher motive, from such dishonesty.

Mrs. Shields sends her kind regards thankful that a kind Providence has been ever near, & has blest their isolated home with a darling son.

The mother has done well, she was out of school only two weeks! & has not kept help constantly — hiring only her washing & ironing since the first 10 days. The school is as full as is usual at the planting season.

I am teaching one department — & an hour each day at close of school, teach the girls to knit. I hope to welcome my friend Miss Shurtleff soon, as I suppose her school in Charleston closed yesterday or today. Dr. Shields is laboring hard to get the adobe house & school-room (only 3 rooms) completed that a school can be opened at the Spring this summer, but we need help to build & furnish even after the simplest order.

Yours truly — Mary M. Harris

Traveling expenses of
Mary M. Harris from Charleston Ill.
to Jemez New Mexico.

R. R. fare from Charleston to Mattoon	.35
" " " Mattoon to Tolono	1.07
" " " Tolono to Decatur	1.10
Supper .50 Lodging .50 =	1.00
R. R. ½ fare fr. Decatur to Kan. City	5.30
Omnibus at Kansas City	.50
Street-car fare " "	.15
R. R. ½ fare fr. " " to Albuquerque	26.50
" Pullman sleeper	7.00
Care of baggage at station	.20
Coffee (at 3 eating stations)	.30
Omnibus at Albuquerque — to & fr. Mission	2.00
R. R. fare fr. Albuquerque to Jemez	

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Care of baggage at station	.20
Coffee (at 3 eating stations).	.30
Omnibus at Albuquerque - to & fr. Mission	2.00
R. R. fare fr. Albuquerque to Bernalillo -	1.60
Hotel fare at Bernalillo.	1.50
Conveyance fr. " " to Jemez	8.00
Extra baggage fr. Charleston to "	11.00
Total	$67.37

Mary H. Harris.
James Springs
New Mexico
ans. 11.19/81

James Springs New Mex.
Aug. 18th 1881

Mrs. F. E. H. Haines
Cor. Sec. Ex. Com. W. B. H. M.

Dear Mrs. Haines,

Your letter of July 2d was nearly four weeks on the way. I could not reply in regard to the funds donated by the Ladies in Troy for this school until I heard from Dr. Shields as Miss Verbeck had turned over to him the money that was left after spending part of it for books &c for the school, which supplies she sent on by me & have been used in the school. Dr. Shields says he has used for this school all the funds given him for this purpose & $10. of his own.

Still the benches & tables (for desks) although of a rude kind (to make expenses as small as possible) are not enough to seat the scholars that expect to attend next term.

Besides the needed supplies mentioned in my last letter we also need copy books, slates, numerical frame &c, but all save the copy books better be purchased at our nearest point for supplies. I can send to Santa Fé the middle of Sept. for them if I have the funds, but the help I expected from our S.S. at home has been delayed, & the small amount due on my salary July 1st, has not been received.

I hoped the board floors would be laid, so that I could re-open school by Sept. 15th, as I have taken a needed vacation this month.

The members of our church (Mexicans) have been engaged to saw out by hand, the lumber for the floors, as it would be cheaper than the cost & freight from Bernalillo, but we are having such heavy rains that the men cannot well go into the mountains to work, & I fear it will delay the re-opening of school.

Just now the river is suddenly swollen, bringing from the mountains, trees & rocks, dashing furiously on.

The storm that seemed gathering all about us, was Providentially kept from bursting upon us here, but must have spent its fury in the mountains a little above us— probably causing a water-spout.

Those who have witnessed these

better be purchased at our nearest point for supplies. I can send to Santa Fé the middle of Sept. for them if I have the funds, but the help I expected from our S.S. at home has been delayed, & the small amount due on my salary July 1st, has not been received.

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The storm that seemed gathering all about us, was Providentially kept from bursting upon us here, but must have spent its fury in the mountains a little above us— probably causing a water-spout.

Those who have witnessed these in other places, feared night before last, that we should be washed away with one. As it was wise to be as well prepared as we could for the worst, I took refuge with our Mexican friends in a house higher on the hillside; but the storm neither did us, nor our dwelling, any harm. Truly the Lord tenderly preserves me in the midst of great dangers.

Ps. 71st 3rd is the voice of my soul.
"The rock of my strength & my refuge, is in God." I have been interested in noticing how often the Psalmest uses the figure of the rock also of the mountain to portray the attributes of the God of our Salvation. These are grand & forcable figures to us here.

As you requested, I have written Mrs. McClune of Phil. When teaching it will be impossible, with all my other duties, to write many letters, & friends at home are troubled & anxious when they do not hear from me.

What are the directions of the Board in regard to vacations, in these schools. Of course it is desirable to have the schools in session as much of the time, as circumstances will admit.

Yours sincerely
Mary M. Harris

P. S. Please direct letters to
James Springs New Mex.